



# *Milwaukee County*

Supervisor Lynne De Bruin, 15<sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor John F. Weishan, Jr., 16<sup>th</sup> District

For Immediate Release April 22, 2010  
Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager  
414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

## **STILL NO MANDATORY REPORTING AT MENTAL HEALTH COMPLEX**

*Board stalls resolution aimed at reporting assaults and or other violations*

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Supervisors Lynne De Bruin and John F. Weishan, Jr., say they still plan to introduce a resolution to include mandatory reporting of assaults at the Behavioral Health Division's (BHD) Mental Health Complex. The County Board voted against suspending the rules to consider the item at today's Board meeting. The resolution included mandatory reporting of all suspected physical and sexual assaults within Milwaukee County BHD facilities.

"Serious assaults have taken place, and today's vote delays our attempt to reform the institution," Supervisor De Bruin said. "In light of this delay, we're asking the administration to publicly support these initiatives."

In addition to mandatory reporting, the resolution also calls for the creation of a multi-disciplinary patient safety response team to review all incidents, and a Department of Audit review of all patient assault incidents since January 1, 2008.

"These reviews are still done internally, and that creates a huge trust issue for me. In fact, the administration could be held criminally liable for violations under certain circumstances. The same people implementing these our policies should not be trusted to report to us when something goes wrong," Supervisor Weishan added. There is no good reason for our colleagues to not even consider this item today. It could have been referred to a Committee for further discussion, but that didn't happen."

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